

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
THE PARMA HOSPITAL ACUTE
REHABILITATION CENTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Parma Hospital Acute Rehabilitation Center, a multifaceted medical center that provides the people of Northeast Ohio with comprehensive physical and cognitive rehabilitation of excellent quality.

The staff at Parma Hospital Acute Rehabilitation Center consists of nurses, social workers, dietitians, pharmacists, psychologists/neuropsychologists and physical, occupational and speech therapists. These professionals work together to create individualized treatment plans for each patient they treat. The Center is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation (CARF) and consistently exceeds national averages with outstanding outcomes for patients undergoing joint replacement, total knee replacement and hip fracture repair. The Center has also been recognized for its exceptional work with stroke patients.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, the Parma Hospital Acute Rehabilitation Center is an invaluable resource for patients in Northeast Ohio. Its individualized approach, cooperation with patients' families, and dedication to returning all patients to independent living at the highest possible level of functioning make the Center an excellent source of quality health care for the people of its community.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
VANESSA L. GIBSON

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Black History Month 2011, I rise today to recognize a lawmaker from the Bronx whom I admire greatly, the Honorable Vanessa L. Gibson.

Vanessa is a lifelong resident of New York City and a product of its public school system. She graduated from Murray Bergtraum High School for Business Careers in 1997 before enrolling in the State University of Albany, where she obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Sociology in 2001. During her senior year as an undergraduate, Vanessa was offered an internship with Assemblywoman Aurelia Greene, a Democrat from the Bronx who would become Vanessa's most trusted friend and mentor.

Vanessa worked for Assemblywoman Greene in every capacity; learning the processes of public service from one of the ablest and most respected lawmakers in the state. Vanessa first served as Assemblywoman Greene's Legislative Analyst, with responsibilities that included drafting policies to meet the needs of residents of the 77th Assembly District. She worked with community based organizations and diverse constituencies to promote laws that offered greater protections for renters and people on Section 8, and im-

proved educational opportunities for young people from the Bronx. In 2003, Vanessa was promoted to Bronx Office District Manager, which increased not only her responsibilities but also her prominence within the community. She became the principal liaison to Community Boards 4 and 5, in addition to Secretary of the Bronx Unity Democratic Club.

In May 2009, Vanessa received her Master's Degree in Public Administration from Baruch College, part of the City University of New York, CUNY. Later that year, with support from across the state, Vanessa ran for public office and was elected to a seat in the New York State Assembly, representing the people of the 77th District, who after nearly a decade of service had come to know and respect and trust Vanessa's judgment.

Mr. Speaker, Vanessa L. Gibson earned her public profile through loyalty, hard work, but above all, on the power of her considerable gifts. Her youth and talent have led many to regard her as one for New York's future; but this should not outshine the fact that Vanessa is also one for New York's present. She is among the most promising in a new wave of elected officials in this country; women and men who learned government from the inside and took away its best lessons; lessons of respect for ethics; of honesty in public dealings; and of fidelity to the best interests of one's constituents. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing a hugely gifted woman, and someone who carries with her the hopes of thousands of New Yorkers, including myself, The Honorable Vanessa L. Gibson.

TRIBUTE TO MARY ANN SUDOVAR

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention an outstanding individual and a source of inspiration to many, Mrs. Mary Anne Sudovar, who celebrated her 100th birthday on September 18, 2010.

Born in Shelton, CT, in 1910 as Mary Anne Sullivan, she is the oldest of nine children. As a result of her father's job as a construction foreman in the 1920's, Mary's family was forced to relocate frequently. Consequently, they lived in Massachusetts, North and South Carolina, Virginia, and New Jersey in addition to Connecticut.

Mary's propensity to travel extended outside the United States as well. During her lifetime she has visited France, Egypt, Israel, Rome, and Scotland.

In 1938, Mary was wed to Stephen Sudovar (d. 1998) of Garfield, NJ. Shortly afterwards, the couple moved to Wayne, NJ, where they began to build a life together. Mary and Steve had four children: Marianne, Kathleen, Stephen, and Barbara. Mary has 16 grandchildren and is fortunate enough to also enjoy 16 great-grandchildren with one more on the way.

Mary recalls some of her fondest memories over the past century: walking around Packanack Lake, dancing the Polka with her husband, Steve, storytelling, and relaxing on cool summer evenings.

Today, Mary continues to be the life of the party and constantly has visitors. She serves

as a source of inspiration to her soon-to-be 37 person family with her beautiful smile, encouraging words, and upbeat attitude. When asked about the secrets to a long and healthy life, Mary quickly declared, "Hard work and always managing to smile—regardless of the situation."

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing outstanding members of the community like Anne Mary Sudovar.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Mary's family and friends, the residents of Wayne, NJ, and me in congratulating Mary on her 100th birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I had to return to my district because of the illness and subsequent death of my sister. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 95, 114 and 146 and "nay" on rollcall No. 93, 94, 96–113, 115–145, 147.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF RICHARD
DISTELHORST

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Richard Distelhorst, a man who devoted himself to the well being of his community and the nation.

Richard was born on August 24th, 1921 to his loving parents Oscar and Esther Distelhorst. He graduated from Burlington High School in 1939. After graduating he met the love of his life, Virginia. The two married in 1944 and celebrated 60 years together before Virginia's death in 2004. As a young man Richard enlisted in the Marine Corps and served as a master sergeant in the South Pacific during World War II.

His service and devotion to his local community will be remembered by those who knew him. He was a member of his local Kiwanis Club, a grand knight of the Knights of Columbus and chairman of the local Service Corps of Retired Executives. He also dedicated his time to the Burlington Alliance for Citizen Action.

Richard also possessed a passion for politics. He volunteered countless hours for local grass roots political action. He was an active member of the Des Moines County Democrats and was eventually awarded for his service to them by being inducted in the Des Moines county Democrats Hall of Fame in 2006. He worked tirelessly organizing peace rallies, educating the community about pertinent political issues and assisted with the 2004 Kucinich for President Campaign. Additionally, Richard was an active member and senior advisor of the American Monetary Institute (AMI). The director and co-founder of the AMI referred to Richard as one of "the most knowledgeable Americans regarding the workings of the Federal Reserve system."